Amend CSHB 1 (house committee printing) as follows:

(1) In Article VIII of the bill, following the appropriations to the Department of Insurance (page VIII-16), add the following appropriately numbered rider and renumber subsequent riders accordingly:

_____. Consumer Complaint Review Panel. Out of the amounts appropriated above to the Department of Insurance, the department shall fund the operation of a consumer complaint review panel administered by the State Office of Administrative Hearings to review all complaints filed by a policyholder with the department and that the department denied or determined to be without merit or of which the department did not confirm receipt. The panel shall conduct an independent review to determine if the complaint has merit and if so, remand the complaint to the department for resolution.

(2) In Article XI of the bill, under the Article VIII items for the Texas Department of Insurance (page XI-14), strike "Consumer Complaint Review Panel-Rider" and the associated amount for the biennium.

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